

WYANDANCH UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

WYANDANCH WARRIORS



ATHLETIC HANDBOOK FOR SCHOLAR- ATHLETES AND PARENTS

District Website: [Athletics / Athletics Home \(wyandanch.k12.ny.us\)](https://www.wyandanch.k12.ny.us/Athletics)

Dear Scholars and Parents:

Studies have shown that students involved in co-curricular activities manage their time more effectively and have higher grades than those not involved. Additionally, they are more serious about their own growth and development. After-hours commitments also teach organizational skills, collaborative skills, decision making skills and inter- and intra- personal skills and enhance opportunities for expanding creativity. Co-curricular activities are the events that make positive school memories. It is for these reasons I am pleased that you have chosen to participate in the fine interscholastic athletic program in the Wyandanch Union Free School District.

This handbook is written for scholars and their parents. The Athletic Department has worked hard to provide the information you need to understand the rules governing athletic participation and the procedures that athletes and their parents must follow.

For your convenience the Athletics website also has a direct link to the **SECTION XI WEBSITE** at www.sectionxi.org. This website allows the athletic community access to high school and modified (middle school) scheduling information, game times, schedules, and directions to contest sites. In addition, the website posts high school varsity league and division standings, tournament brackets, seeding information, and other appropriate athletic information. It is an excellent source of information for all those involved in interscholastic athletics.

All the information in this handbook has been reviewed and endorsed by the Athletic Department and school administration. It is our hope that the handbook will answer many questions and serve as a resource as you engage in interscholastic athletics.

This handbook should be read by parents and scholars. **The acknowledgement must be signed by both the athlete and a parent and submitted to the coach before the first contest of the season in order to participate in that contest.**

We invite all parents and community members to become positive influences. Please contact the Athletic Office at 631 870-0478 or send an e-mail to sdavis@wufsd.net if you ever have any questions, concerns or suggestions. **GO WARRIORS!**

Sincerely,

Steven Davis

Director of Physical Education, Health, and Athletics

GOVERNING BODIES IN ATHLETICS

Interscholastic Athletics is governed by rules, regulations and guidelines as established by the **New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA)**, which is directly responsible to the **State Education Department (SED)** and the **Commissioner of Education**.

The NYSPHSAA is comprised of eleven sections or chapters in the state of New York. Suffolk County, which is referred to as **Section XI**, is a member of the NYSPHSAA. It is the purpose of this organization to formulate and adopt policies that will enable public high schools to administer and govern interscholastic athletics in accordance with sound educational practices.

The NYSPHSAA and Section XI establish many of the rules, regulations and policies that govern public school interscholastic athletic competition. Season start and end dates, the Selection/Classification program (process for moving up), eligibility, schedules (dates of contests), placement (which opponents are played), contest rules, safety policies, practice mandates, postseason tournament opportunities (league, division, county and state play-offs) are some of the areas governed by these associations. Section XI also is responsible for the scheduling of all officials for all contests played in Suffolk County.

Wyandanch as a member of the Suffolk County Public High School Athletic Association, is obligated to comply with state and section regulations. Therefore, our district policies must not be in conflict with those policies that govern Suffolk County public school athletic programs

Wyandanch School District Athletics Code of Ethics

It is important for all athletes to remember that participation is a privilege that is not to be abused by unsportsman-like conduct. The Wyandanch athlete is to demonstrate self-control and respect for teammates, opponents, other athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators at all times. Wyandanch athletes are expected to treat opponents with respect before, during and after competitions. Saying, "Congratulations," shaking hands, and showing other acts of good sportsmanship are expected from the athlete. Wyandanch athletes are expected to follow the following **SPORTSMANSHIP** code:

- Follow the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play.
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- Make no remarks or gestures at any time toward any other person, which would be considered belittling, disparaging, bullying, or in any way judgmental or critical of that person.
- Stress values derived from playing the game fairly.
- Show cordiality and courtesy to visiting teams and officials.
- Establish positive relations with visiting teams and hosts.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.
- Follow the Section XI, NYSPHSAA and the school rules of eligibility.
- Encourage leadership, initiative and good judgment in teammates.
- Recognize that the purpose of athletics is to promote the physical, moral, social and emotional well-being of the players.
- Remember that an athletic contest is **ONLY A GAME** for the athlete, coach, school, spectator or community.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Wyandanch Union Free School District believes that athletics can contribute significantly to the educational experience of all students. Scholars can enrich their educational experience through participation in such interscholastic activities. The program emphasizes developing self-esteem, individual skills, teamwork, citizenship, and sportsmanship. In addition, we believe that our athletic program fosters discipline, leadership, respect, equity, diversity, inclusivity, and cooperation. All scholars are encouraged to participate in as many athletic programs as possible. However, participation in Wyandanch athletics is a privilege and not a right; Participants earn that privilege by adhering to the rules and policies set forth by the school district and athletic department. Scholar-athletes are expected to strive for excellence in their character, classroom achievement, and athletic performance.

The athletic program is an extension of the school district's K-12 physical education program and as such is an important part of the districts overall educational plans. As a result of physical education and athletics, scholars will have numerous opportunities to grow and mature physically and emotionally. They will develop a sense of health and wellness, become advocates of healthy living, and be able to make a positive contribution to their communities. The district has set high expectations and standards. All coaches, staff, and scholars are encouraged to strive to achieve them while maintaining a proper perspective on life, education, and athletics.

GOALS

- To provide our scholars with the opportunities to explore a broad range of age appropriate athletic activities both on an intramural and on an interscholastic basis.
- To provide recreational outlets for our scholars while building their general physical fitness, improving their cardiovascular strength and enhancing their athletic skills in developmental, age-appropriate ways.
- To regularly assess and take into account the physical safety, personal development, wellbeing and progress of every one of our participants.
- To address the unique psycho-social needs of our adolescents through effective athletic activities which encourage and reinforce cooperation, respect for student differences, team commitment, good sportsmanship, peer approval and task commitment.

ATHLETIC CODE OF BEHAVIOR

It is our desire that all individuals (athletes, coaches, officials, spectators and supervisors) involved with interscholastic athletics will display behavior that reflects the ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and a sense of fair play. The benefits derived from playing the game fairly should be stressed and any actions which tend to destroy those values should be discouraged. Courtesy should be shown toward opponents, officials, supervisors, spectators and administrators. Efforts must be made to achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and standards of eligibility, as well as to respect the integrity and the judgment of sports officials.

ATHLETES ARE EXPECTED TO:

- conduct themselves in a mature fashion at all times
- not engage in the hazing, initiation or bullying of any students or staff members
- demonstrate self-control and mutual respect at all times
- avoid the use of profanity, abusive language or gestures in dealing with opponents, officials or spectators
- accept victory with grace and defeat with dignity; poor winners or losers do a disservice to themselves
- set an example in word and deed, both on and off the playing area; remember that athletes assume a leadership role and that younger students emulate their behavior
- observe training regulations and requirements of physical fitness for better personal performance and greater contribution to the team effort
- place athletic competition in its proper perspective; it represents only one part of the learning process and should not be pursued to the exclusion of everything else. Remember that the student comes before the athlete in student-athlete.

SPECTATORS ARE EXPECTED TO:

- conform to accepted standards of good sportsmanship and behavior
- not engage in the hazing of any students or staff members
- respect officials, coaches and players and extend all courtesies to them

- refrain from feet stomping, disrespectful remarks and the use of noisemakers
- remain silent when players require total concentration, i.e., a free throw in basketball or a serve in volleyball
- obey the regulations of the school; those who do not conform will be brought to the attention of the building authorities
- understand that schools are responsible for the conduct of their respective spectators whether **home or away**.

Violators of this code are subject to eviction from the area.

All Wyandanch school community members are expected to behave responsibly while in school and while participating in the interscholastic programs. During the season, student athletes must conform to several Athletic Department policies as outlined in this handbook.

HAZING, INITIATION, BULLYING

The coach will review with the entire team the definitions of hazing, initiation and bullying. The scholar athletes will understand the seriousness of participation in any activity that is considered hazing, initiation or bullying and that Wyandanch has zero tolerance. There are serious consequences should this occur.

Violators of this code are subject to suspension/dismissal from the team along with discipline from the school administration.

SECTION XI TEAM, COACHES, FANS, SCHOOL SPORTSMANSHIP

Every contest played in Suffolk County is rated by coaches and officials for sportsmanship. Ratings are collected after each game and sent to Section XI. Results are then tabulated for each team relative to other teams in their league. Additionally, each school receives a post season general rating. Student-athletes and parents must recognize that their conduct plays an important role in establishing the reputation of their school and that their positive actions can relate directly to the success of their teams.

TRANSPORTATION

All members of athletic teams must travel to and from athletic contests in transportation provided by Wyandanch Public Schools. Athletes are expected to use transportation provided by the school “to” and “from” all athletic contests avoiding this requirement will release the Wyandanch UFSD from all liability for any adverse results that may occur. In our website you can find the **“Athletics Travel Release Form”** that must be completed by Parent/Guardian and given to your Child’s Head Coach 24 Hours in advance. Student-athletes are expected to arrive for bus departures on time, and may not drive to the site. If a student does not make the bus, and arrives at the site without administrative approval in advance, the athlete should not expect to participate. In special cases, a parent may need permission to transport their child to a game site on a given date. Typically, these circumstances involve SAT or ACT testing dates. In such cases, the request must be made to the Director of Athletics or a building administrator, in writing, in advance of the contest. These shall be considered only as the “rare exception” and should be reserved for emergency situations. **STUDENTS MAY NEVER DRIVE THEMSELVES TO/FROM CONTESTS**

The WUFSD district will not be able to accommodate athletes with district transportation after practices. Transportation arrangements need to be made for travel home after practices. Transportation home after returning to the school from an away contest will not be provided for athletes. Parents are expected to pick up athletes in a timely fashion after home games, or when the athlete returns from an away contest. Athletes should check with the coach for the estimated time of pick up.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

In order to participate on an interscholastic athletic team, a student **must** satisfy the following minimum eligibility rules. These standards are established by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association.

Bona fide students: an athlete must be a bona fide student and must be taking at least four subjects including physical education.

Health Examination: a student who engages in interscholastic competition must submit completed parental permission forms with their medical history signed by the parent/guardian and a physical examination screening form completed by a physician. The forms are available online at the Wyandanch Athletic Page. Misrepresentation or falsifying data on medical forms will result in immediate suspension from participation pending a hearing with the Athletic Director and the Principal. Athletic physicals are valid for one calendar year from the date in which they were administered. If a physical expires during the course of a season, the athlete will be permitted to complete the season, but will not be eligible to try-out for subsequent teams until they complete a new physical with their physician.

Attendance Eligibility: an athlete with more than three illegal or unexcused absences will not be eligible for participation in athletics. Exceptions will be made only if the athlete provides evidence of an acceptable excused absence (e.g., driving test, doctor's note, court appearance, educational requirement). Furthermore, students must be present for five periods during the school day to be eligible for participation. A student may not leave school after five periods and return for practice/contest unless it is an excused absence approved by the building administration or Director of Athletics. Students who arrive at school late without an approved

excuse, as defined by the student disciplinary code, or are absent for any part of the day due to illness will not be considered to be in regular attendance at school all day as prescribed by the Interscholastic athletic Eligibility Policy, and will not be permitted to practice or play on that day. Two suspensions from school, either in or out of school, will result in immediate dismissal from the extracurricular activity.

First unexcused absence will result in suspension from 1 contest/performance

Second unexcused absence will result in suspension from 2 contests/performances

Third unexcused absence will result in the athlete's being dropped from the team

Academic Eligibility: a student-athlete that fails three or more classes will be ineligible for participation. A student-athlete that fails two classes in a semester will be put on academic probation. Student-Athletes will make every effort to maintain a 2.0 grade point average (GPA) and a satisfactory level of academic achievement. While on academic probation students must go to extra help at least two times per week for each subject if failing during the quarter. If they do this, they will be allowed to continue to practice and at the end of five weeks into the quarter will be fully re-instated back on the team, providing they are passing **BOTH SUBJECTS**. If students fail to go to extra help they will not be allowed to practice and will be ineligible until the next marking period. The time lines for eligibility this year are as follows:

2 subjects failed in June of previous school year 4th Quarter	First eligible date - 2nd five weeks of 1st Quarter
Students didn't attend summer school	First eligible date - 2nd five weeks of 1st Quarter
Students failed in summer school	First eligible date - 2nd five weeks of 1st Quarter
2 subjects failed by End of 1st Quarter	Next eligible date – 2nd five Weeks of 2nd Quarter
2 subjects failed by end of 2nd Quarter	Next eligible date – 2nd five weeks of 3rd Quarter
2 subjects failed by end of 3rd quarter	Next eligible date – 2nd five weeks of 4th Quarter

APPEALS

- In the event that a student believes that there are extenuating circumstances regarding his/her eligibility, there shall be an opportunity for appeal. The appeals committee will be comprised of teacher volunteers, guidance counselors, and administrative personnel.
- A student appealing must do so in writing to the appeals committee within one week of notification of ineligibility indicating reasons for reinstatement.
- During the appeals process, the student will remain ineligible until, and if, their eligibility has been restored.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION PARTICIPATION

Athletics is an outgrowth of the Physical Education program. Since interscholastic athletics are philosophical extensions of the physical education program and classified as co-curricular activities, the goals and objectives of athletics should be supportive of and consistent with the goals and objectives of the total educational program. When conducted properly, athletics can positively contribute to intellectual, physical, social and emotional development.

A student-athlete excused from Physical Education class for medical reasons may NOT participate in a practice, scrimmage, or contest on that same day. Note that the Commissioner's Regulations dictate that a student-athlete is ineligible if he/she is medically excused from participation in a Physical Education class. **Any contest that an ineligible athlete participates in is deemed a forfeit.**

In addition, if a student-athlete did not participate in Physical Education on a day of a practice or a contest, that student is not allowed to participate in athletics that day. Exceptions to this could be, but not limited to, state assessments, field trips, and assemblies.

TRYOUTS AND TEAM SELECTION

As an athletic department, we try to keep as many students on our athletic teams as possible. Size of the team is determined by safety factors such as how many athletes a coach can adequately supervise. Additionally, team members are determined by the amount of athletes who can positively contribute in some way. Unfortunately, some teams have to make “selections or cuts”. This is a decision that is one of the most difficult for a coach to make. When athletes are evaluated during a tryout period, coaches are asked to utilize as many “objective factors” as possible. These factors differ from sport to sport. Some subjective elements come into play like effort and attitude.

PRACTICE SESSIONS

All required practice sessions shall be organized and planned from Monday - Saturday and shall include activities specific to the sport. Depending on the sport and level of play, each team and team member is required to participate in a minimum number of practice sessions prior to the first team scrimmage and/or contest. Practice sessions are sport specific, so that practices in one sport would not apply to another sport in the event an athlete changes teams. The athlete must be engaged in rigorous activity in order for the practice to be counted toward the minimum number. A practice on the same day of a game may not be counted towards the minimum number.

Athletes must have an approved medical examination and health update before being cleared in writing by the nurse to practice. Scholar-athletes are expected to attend every scheduled practice, scrimmage and contest (not to exceed 6 days per week). If you must miss a scheduled practice, scrimmage or game, it is responsibility of the athlete to give prior notice to the coach, in writing, if possible dated and signed by parent (s)/guardians (s). Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action by the coach. Students absent from school for an excused absence i.e. death in the family must receive written permission from the School Principal and/or Athletic Director to participate in practice, scrimmage or contest on the day they are absent from school.

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OBSERVANCE OF RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

The Wyandanch Athletic Department recognizes the right of all students to practice the teachings of their religion and observe religious holidays. All requests to be excused from practice and/or games to attend religious services will be honored without penalty. The scheduling of scrimmages or games shall be prohibited on the following religious holidays: Rosh Hashanah (beginning at sunset of the previous day), Yom Kippur (beginning at sunset of the previous day), Christmas Day, Holy Thursday (evening), Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

CHANGING SPORTS

Whenever students enlist in the athletic program by joining or trying-out for a specific team, they assume a responsibility and commitment to that team and coach. Dropping out of a sport is discouraged. On occasion, however, an athlete may find it necessary to drop a sport for a good reason. Dropping a sport and the subsequent transfer to another sport shall be governed by the following guidelines:

- No changing of teams will be allowed after the official team roster has been submitted or after the final cut has been made on the team being dropped or the team to be joined without approval from the Athletic Director.
- An athlete, who wishes to leave a team and/or transfer to another, may do so provided he/she leaves while in good standing and only after discussing the reason for leaving with the Athletic Director and the coach. There must be room on the other team. All issued equipment must be returned.
- An athlete who is dismissed from a squad for disciplinary reasons (i.e.: violation of the code of conduct, insubordination, excessive unexcused absences, suspension, etc.) shall not be allowed to participate in another sport for the remainder of the sport's season or until the period of suspension expires.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

All uniforms and equipment must be returned to the coach at the end of the season. Students who lose equipment or uniforms will be billed for replacement pieces. Be aware that a replacement jersey or sweat top can be very costly because of the special order that must be placed. Students who have not returned school issued equipment or uniforms will not be given another in the next season until the previous uniform and/or compensation has been received.

BEHAVIOR VIOLATIONS

Wyandanch athletes are to avoid taking, selling, consuming any type of alcohol or drug not prescribed by a physician including cigarettes or tobacco products. Students found in violation of this policy may be suspended from athletic participation.

Wyandanch athletes are not to engage in any behavior inside or outside of school that is illegal or an embarrassment to the team. Students in violation of this clause are subject to the Student Code of Conduct and may be suspended or eliminated from athletic participation.

It is our goal to learn and teach in a healthy, vibrant and safe environment where all are valued, welcomed and accepted. To that end, all adults are expected to: (1) To model acceptable behavior with other students and adults at all times. (2) To be diligent in identifying unacceptable behavior. (3) To bring to the attention of school officials those who violate these rules.

The use of Facebook and other social networking sites to disseminate negative information or photographs is strictly prohibited by the athletic department. Students in violation of this clause are subject to the Student Code of Conduct and may be suspended or eliminated from athletic participation.

RISK FACTOR IN SPORTS

In the event an athlete sustains an injury which is serious enough to require a physician's examination and treatment, the athlete must obtain written permission from the attending physician and parent before being allowed to resume practice/competition. All such injuries must be reported to the coach, athletic trainer **and** the Health Office by the athlete and coach as soon after the injury as possible, but no later than the next school day.

All doctors' notes regarding an athlete's fitness to resume athletic competition must be submitted to the Health Office to be noted on the student's health record. In the event a question arises regarding an injury/illness, the Health Office should be contacted immediately.

In all cases, when a question regarding the health, fitness or ability of an athlete to return to athletic participation is raised, the decision of the Chief School Physician will be final.

CONCUSSIONS

A concussion is a mild traumatic brain injury. Concussions occur when normal brain functioning is disrupted by a blow or jolt to the head. Recovery from concussion will vary. Avoiding re-injury and over-exertion until fully recovered are the cornerstones of proper concussion management.

Any student demonstrating signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion while participating in interscholastic athletic activity will be removed from the game or activity and be evaluated immediately and will not return to play that day. The Wyandanch School District has taken special precautions to insure the safety of all athletes and will follow the New York State Concussion Awareness protocols. All coaches, physical education teachers, and certified athletic trainers are required to be trained to recognize the symptoms of a concussion and to seek proper medical treatment for such injuries.

RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOL AND CLEARANCE

Once a student-athlete is diagnosed with a concussion, they can only be cleared back to athletics by the WUFSD Chief Medical Officer. Clearance by a physician is needed to begin return to play protocols.

No student may return to full athletics before going through a return-to-play protocol. This is a 5-day supervised program that is overseen by the WUFSD Athletic Trainer. Return to play following a concussion involves a stepwise progression once the individual is symptom free. There are many risks to premature return to play including: a greater risk for a second concussion because of a lower concussion threshold, second impact syndrome (abnormal brain blood flow that can result in death), exacerbation of any current symptoms, and possibly increased risk for additional injury due to alteration in balance. No student /athlete will be permitted to return to play while symptomatic. Students are prohibited from returning to play the day. If a concussion is suspected. If there is any doubt as to whether a student has sustained a concussion it will be treated as a concussion! (When in doubt sit them out.)

Students are prohibited from returning to play the day the concussion is suspected. If there is any doubt as to whether a student has sustained a concussion it will be treated as a concussion! (When in doubt sit them out.) The following criteria will be utilized before any athlete is cleared to return to play:

- Asymptomatic during rest
- Asymptomatic during exertion
- Acceptable signs on impact neurological testing
- Completion of return to play protocols

Detailed information on concussions can be found on the websites of the New York State Education Department (“SED”) and the New York State Department of Health (“DOH”).
<https://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/documents/ConcussionManageGuidelines.pdf>

All coaches, physical education teachers, and certified athletic trainers are required to be trained to recognize the symptom of a concussion and to seek proper medical treatment for such injuries.

ATHLETIC AWARDS

All scholar-athletes who participate and complete the Modified (middle school), Junior varsity, and Varsity season shall be eligible for a school athletic award, providing that they have returned all issued uniforms and equipment. Awards certificates to middle school athletes are presented to athletes by their coaches, in a team meeting or gathering at the end of their season/school year.

LOCKERS

Lockers are school property on loan to students. Students are assigned a locker and are responsible to see that the locker is returned in the same condition in which it was when assigned. Any malfunction of lockers must be reported to the coach immediately. Each student is encouraged to make sure that the locker is kept securely locked at all times and to share neither the combination, nor the locker with any other student. The locker should not be used to store valuable items or large sums of money, as the school and district is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

***A NOTE TO SENIORS:** One of the most difficult situations coaches face is the dilemma of the senior who has been in the program for years, and now is viewed as a limited role player. Seniors will not be accommodated with a junior varsity position, as this would not be beneficial for the program. At the varsity level, the best will play, regardless of age, as long as program expectations are met. Coaches are encouraged to be honest with seniors, and if it is clear to the coach during tryouts that the role of the senior will be limited, that information needs to be communicated. The senior presented with the opportunity to remain in the program with a limited role must be prepared to accept this role, and still meet all the expectations of the program with respect to attendance and work ethic, while showing support for the team. This is a difficult challenge, and the senior must be willing to meet this challenge with a positive attitude if he or she wishes to remain a part of the team. If a coach feels that the senior has reached the limits of his or her potential, and the athlete is incapable of adjusting to limited role expectations with a positive attitude, the coach may not provide the senior with the option of staying on the team.

Senior Day: It is common in most sports to participate in Senior Day recognition. The sole purpose of Senior Day is to **acknowledge** and **show appreciation** for senior athletes who have been a part of the athletic program. It is the Coach's discretion as to the appropriate opportunity for this honor. In the past there has been a misconception that Senior Day guarantees that all seniors will participate in the contest. While coaches will be sensitive to the playing time concerns of seniors and their parents, team goals must come before individual goals. Coaches should communicate their philosophy about Senior Day playing time prior to the contest to avoid misunderstandings.

WYANDANCH UFSD ATHLETIC TEAMS

	Varsity	Junior Varsity	Junior High
FALL			
Cheerleading	X		X
Cross Country-Boys	X		
Cross Country-Girls	X		
Football	X		X
Soccer - Boys	X	X	X
Soccer - Girls	X		X
Volleyball - Girls	X	X	Early Winter
WINTER			
<i>Junior High Divided into two seasons: Early or Late Winter</i>			
Basketball - Boys	X	X	Early Winter/ 1 team
Basketball - Girls	X	X	Late Winter/ 1 team
Cheerleading			Basketball Cheer- Early Winter
Indoor Track - Boys	X		
Indoor Track - Girls	X		
Volleyball - Girls			Early Winter/ 1 team
Wrestling			Late Winter
SPRING			
Baseball		X	X
Lacrosse - Boys			X
Lacrosse - Girls			X
Softball		X	X
Track - Boys	X		X
Track - Girls	X		X
Unified Basketball- co-ed	X		

ATHLETE/PARENT/COACH COMMUNICATION PROCESS

COMMUNICATION YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM YOUR CHILD'S COACH

1. Philosophy of the coach
2. Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all players on the squad
3. Locations and times of all practices and contests
4. Team requirements, team rules, special equipment, off season programs
5. Procedure, should your child be injured during participation
6. Disciplinary action if needed

COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM PARENTS

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
3. Specific concerns in regard to a coach's philosophy

APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES

1. The treatment of your child, mentally and physically
2. Ways to improve your child's skill
3. Concerns about your child's behavior

It is very difficult to accept your child's not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professionals. They make judgments based on what they believe to be the best for all students involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain topics can and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other topics, such as those described in the next segment must be left to the discretion of the coach.

ISSUES NOT APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES

1. Playing time
2. Team Strategy
3. Play Calling
4. Other Student-Athletes

Coaches are making decisions that are in the best interest of all members of the team or program.

Please be supportive of their decisions. PROCEDURES FOR DISCUSSING A CONCERN WITH A COACH

1. Call to set up an appointment with the coach
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Office to leave a message for the coach
3. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after practice or contest. These can be emotional times and may not benefit either party to attempt to resolve concerns at these times.
4. If you cannot resolve the problem after meeting with the coach, call to speak with the Athletic Director.

Wyandanch UFSD Interscholastic Athletic Handbook Acknowledgement Must be returned to your coach prior to the first scheduled contest.

ACCIDENTS, INJURIES and CONCUSSIONS

By signing below, I signify that I understand that there are risks inherent in permitting my son or daughter to participate in interscholastic athletics including the risk of serious physical injuries, including but not limited to concussions. Detailed information on Concussions can be found on the websites of the New York Education Department ("SED") and the New York State Department of Health ("DOH"). See <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/schoolhealth/schoolhealthservices/ConcussionManageGuidelinespdf>. Among other things, the Guidelines recommend a gradual return to physical activities following any concussion. We urge you to read the information posted on the SED and DOH Websites prior to your child's participation in any athletic activities. This consent to my child's participation is given with the knowledge that participation in inter scholastic athletics can present inherent risks of injury that no amount of care, caution, instruction, expertise or supervision can eliminate. Mindful of these risks, I voluntarily give my permission for my son/daughter to participate in interscholastic athletics.

By signing below, I further acknowledge that I have read and understand the enclosed statements regarding concussions. I further agree to promptly inform the District in the event my child sustains a concussion outside of school so that appropriate safeguards can be taken with respect to his or her participation in interscholastic athletics.

Athlete's name (please print)

Grade

Sport

Home Phone

Cell Phone

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the guidelines, procedures, training rules and commitment necessary for athletic participation. I give my son/daughter permission to participate. I have reviewed the rules and regulations with my child.

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date

I have read the above guidelines for a Wyandanch athlete and I am willing to adhere to all rules and expected behaviors. I am also aware that disciplinary actions will be initiated if I fail to adhere to the rules and expected behaviors. I understand that all athletic policies are governed specifically by the Board of Education and it is my responsibility to know, understand, and follow those expectations.

Athlete's Signature

Date